

	Traditional Land Acknowledgment	
	Policy Type:	Governance Process
	Number:	GP-D-2.5
	To be Reviewed:	Once per term
	Approval Date:	December 11, 2023
	Motion Number:	23.C.395
	Revised Date(s):	

Policy Statement

The Town of Okotoks (Town) created a land acknowledgement in support of the calls to action for reconciliation. As the Town’s relations with our Indigenous partners evolved, our understanding of the meaning of a land acknowledgment also evolved.

The Traditional Land Acknowledgment Policy embraces the oral culture of the Indigenous with an accompanying video of land acknowledgement and a guide on its use moving forward.

Policy Purpose

This Policy outlines when the written Traditional Land Acknowledgment and Traditional Land Acknowledgement Video are to be utilized.

1. Written Traditional Land Acknowledgement

1.1. The Town of Okotoks’ written Traditional Land Acknowledgement is:

“The Town of Okotoks acknowledges the original stewards of this land that we know and call Treaty 7 Territory, which includes the Blackfoot Confederacy First Nations the Kainai, Siksika and Piikani. The Stoney Nakoda First Nations, which includes the Bearspaw, Chiniki and Goodstoney, the Dene First Nation of Tsuut’ina and the Metis Nation of Alberta. We Vow to continue honouring and respecting the Indigenous Peoples Sacred and Traditional ways of life and will carry on this special relationship with the land so that generations to come can enjoy, use, and live off the land as their ancestors did. We honour and respect this space, the water, the animals, and all the beings who have a spirit and have been here long before us.”

1.2. The Mayor or Deputy Mayor, following the call to order of Council and Governance and Priorities Meetings, will read the written Traditional Land Acknowledgment.

1.3. The Chair or Vice Chair of Council’s board and committees, following the call to order, will read the written Traditional Land Acknowledgment.

1.4. The written Traditional Land Acknowledgment may be read before the start of any Town-lead function, meeting, or gathering as desired.

2. Traditional Land Acknowledgement Video

2.1. The Town’s Traditional Land Acknowledgement video will be available to all citizens on the Town’s website (<https://okotoks.ca/land-acknowledgement>) and on the Town’s YouTube channel.

- 2.2. The Traditional Land Acknowledgement video will be shown annually at Council's Organizational Meeting and every four (4) years at the Inauguration of Council.
- 2.3. The Traditional Land Acknowledgement video will be shown annually at the first meeting of Council's boards and committees following Council's Organizational Meeting.
- 2.4. The Traditional Land Acknowledgement video may be shown before the start of any Town-lead function, meeting, or gathering as desired.